

T-572

c. 1860-1870

Magnolia Hall

St. Michaels

private

Magnolia Hall is a well preserved mid nineteenth-century frame house located on Water Street in the eastern residential neighborhood of St. Michaels. The hip roof is an unusual feature, and the turned post porch adds decorative interest to the north and west sides. In addition, the interior has not been significantly altered with its mid nineteenth-century stair and woodwork. Unlike most house in this portion of town, the front section was devoted to commercial space according to family tradition.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Caulk Houseand/or common Magnolia Hall

2. Location

street & number East Side of Water Street (411) ☐ not for publicationcity, town St. Michaels ☐ vicinity of congressional district Firststate Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mrs. Caulkstreet & number Magnolia Hall telephone no.:city, town St. Michaels state and zip code MD 21663

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liberstreet & number Talbot County Courthouse foliocity, town Easton state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-572

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Magnolia Hall description

Magnolia Hall stands on the east side of Water Street in the eastern residential neighborhood of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces west.

Built c. 1860-1870, Magnolia Hall is a two-story, side hall parlor frame house supported by a minimal brick foundation, while the walls are sheathed with a combination of novelty siding and plain weatherboards. The hip roof is covered by a layer of asphalt shingles and finished at its base with a boxed cornice. Attached to the rear is a two-story service wing.

The west (front) elevation is three bays across with a side entrance in the south bay. The glazed front door is flanked by three-light sidelights and a four-light transom. The adjacent bays are filled with four over four sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. A hip roofed porch supported by turned porch posts covers the first floor. Small brackets decorate each upper corner and turned baluster handrails stretch between the porch posts. The second floor is lighted by three evenly spaced four over four sash windows. Rising from the center of the roof is a narrow brick stove stack.

The north side of the house is covered on the first floor by the turned post porch. A glazed side door is flanked by two four over four sash windows. Lighting the second floor are two four over four sash windows. The opposite (south) side of the front block has two closely set windows on each floor that pierce the east end of the weatherboarded wall.

Covering the east end of the main block is a two-story service wing, and extending from the service wing is a shed roofed storage room. The rear section is plainly finished with six over six sash windows or later alterations.

Magnolia Hall Description
Page two

The modified side hall/parlor plan house is finished with third quarter of the nineteenth-century woodwork. The side hall has a period stair with a heavily turned newel post, turned balusters, and an oval-profile handrail. The open stringer is decorated with mid nineteenth-century scrolled trim. The space below the stringer is plastered, and the baseboard is topped by an ogee molding. Four-panel doors open into the adjacent rooms. The front room, originally used as a general store, is simply finished. Two rooms are located behind the hall and front parlor. Each room is finished in a plain manner. The kitchen has an enclosed winder stair in the northeast corner. Several steps extend into the room, while most of the stair is located behind a board and batten door.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-572

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/
			<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Magnolia Hall is one of the best preserved mid nineteenth-century frame houses located in the eastern residential neighborhood of St. Michaels. The hip roof is an unusual feature, and the turned post porch adds decorative interest to the west and north sides. In addition the interior has not been significantly altered with its mid nineteenth-century stair and woodwork. Unlike most houses in this portion of St. Michaels, the front portion of the house was devoted to commercial space early in the history of the structure.

Survey No. T-572

Quadrangle scale _____

[illegible]

MAGNOLIA HALL - WATER STREET - MRS. CAULK

YEAR: 1948 VOL: 277 PAGE: 521

FROM: William Reddie PRICE: \$5

TO : Alvin R. Caulk and Clara Thompson Caulk

NOTES: See attached deed. This is a title clearance. Note that the lot is 100'6" frontage on Water Street. Reference to the attached tax map shows that the property includes lot 56 and part of lot 55 (the "normal" town lots of James Braddock were 60 feet street frontage). The plan of the town in the 1877 atlas shows a large rectangular house on property consisting of lots 55, 56, and 57. THESE NOTES ARE MADE BEFORE THE ENTIRE CHAIN HAS BEEN WORKED OUT AND AND IT MAY HAVE BEEN SIMPLER TO START THE CHAIN AT THE BEGINNING RATHER THAN THE END; HOWEVER, AN ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO SHOW THE PROGRESSION FROM THE THREE ORIGINAL LOTS, NUMBERS 55, 56, AND 57 TO THE PRESENT.

As part of the title clearance, the property was conveyed to William Reddie by Albert U. Caulk and others, 1948, 277/520.

YEAR: 1948 VOL: 277 PAGE: 520

FROM: Albert U. & others (see below) PRICE: \$5

TO : William Reddie (attorney)

NOTES: The grantors are Albert U. and Margaret P. Caulk and Alvin R. and Clara Thompson Caulk. Clara T. Caulk is the present owner and occupant. The property was devised by George R. Caulk (Will, 1918, 23/257) to his wife Annie (1/3) and the remainder to his sons Albert U. and Alvin R. Caulk. Annie's interest went to Albert and Alvin by intestate succession.

Conveyed by J. F. Bateman, attorney and others, to George R Caulk and Anna W. Caulk, 1888, 109/245.

YEAR: 1888 VOL: 109 PAGE: 245

FROM: J. F. Bateman, attorney and others PRICE: \$1400

TO : George R. Caulk and Anna W. Caulk

NOTES: Bateman was attorney acting for Wrightson W. Tunis and Sally M. Tunis (wife) and Theophilus Tunis (trading as W. W. Tunis & Brother) The Tunis' bought the property at the foreclosure sale in St. Michaels on a mortgage of Thomas L Dawson with Workingmen's Building & Loan Assn. of St. Michaels for \$825. In this deed the property is sold to the Caulks and includes any interest of the Dawsons. Included also is a mortgage of \$900 from Caulk to Tunis which was paid off in 1891. The foreclosure proceedings are set forth in Chancery Record, 1888, 19/347.

The foreclosure was made under the power of a mortgage of Thomas L Dawson to the Workingmen's Building & Loan Assn. of St. Michaels, 1884, 99/227.

YEAR: 1884 VOL: 99 PAGE: 227

FROM: Thomas L. and Sarah E. Dawson PRICE: \$600

TO : Workingmen's Building & Loan Assn. of St. Michaels

NOTES: This is a mortgage for \$600 with the property as security. The metes & bounds are 100'6" on Water Street with sides of 163' and 193'6" between the water boundary. The mortgage was foreclosed in 1888 (Chancery Record 19/347). Conveyed to Thomas L. Dawson by Sarah A. Lambdin and others, 1881, 92/256.

YEAR: 1881 VOL: 92 PAGE: 258

FROM: Thomas L Dawson and Sarah E. Dawson PRICE: \$200

TO : Workingmen's Building & Loan Assn. St. Michaels

NOTES: A mortgage for \$200 with the property as security. When the document gets to the insurance clause, the amount of insurance is left blank.

Conveyed to Thomas L Dawson by Sarah A. Lambdin and others, 1881, 99/256

YEAR: 1881 VOL: 99 PAGE: 256

FROM: Sarah A. Lambdin and others PRICE: \$400

TO : Thomas L. Dawson and Sarah E. Dawson

NOTES: The grantors are: Sarah A. Lambdin, widow of Thomas H. W. Lambdin, George T. Lambdin, Daniel Lambdin, Mary F. H. Lambdin, Benjamin L. Lambdin, Edward T. LeCompte, Nicholas McC, LeCompte.

Deed states "being part of the land" the above heirs inherited from Thomas H. W. Lambdin which Thomas H. W. Lambdin inherited from his infant son John Wesley Fletcher Lambdin who died 24 Dec. 1842 (6 yr).

Part of the same lot conveyed to John W. F. Lambdin by a "bond of conveyance" from Joseph Robson, 9 Nov. 1837 and part of the same lot John W. F. Lambdin obtained from Joseph and Sarah Robson by deed 16 September 1837, 53/233. A record of a "bond of conveyance" has not been found. John Wesley Fletcher Lambdin would have been one year old when he bought the lot!!

YEAR: 1837 VOL: 53 PAGE: 233

FROM: Joseph and Sarah Robson PRICE: \$128

TO : John W. F. Lambdin

NOTES: The deed refers to Lot 56. Begins at the south course of lot 57 and runs with Water Street S 23.45 E 60 feet; then N 66.15 ___ to the water; "with the water for the line"....and nothing else!

You could let your imagination run on this one. John W. F. Lambdin was one year old when this deed was made. Where did he get the \$128? And father got the lot anyway by intestate inheritance five years later.

The lot is clearly 60 feet on Water Street----yet when Lambdins sell to Dawsons it is 100 feet 6 inches!!

YEAR: 1826 VOL: 8 PAGE: 213 (WILL)

FROM: Thomas Kemp PRICE:

TO : Sarah "Robinson"

NOTES: Thomas Kemp's will, probated 1826, leaves his lots in St. Michaels to his daughter Sarah "Robinson". According to Bernice Leonard, Sarah Kemp married Joseph Robson. Whether "Robson" is "Robinson" will have to come out later. There is a truism in biology --"queer in one respect , queer in many!" This is real estate, but there are holes and faults all the way through this chain. Perhaps the answers are in Annapolis...they are not here.

YEAR: 1791 VOL: 24 PAGE: 227

FROM: Perry Spencer PRICE: see below

TO : Thomas Kemp

NOTES: This deed was made same day as 24/225, and appears to be the same as 24/225, except "part of" is omitted. In consideration of ALL of Thomas Kemp's interest in "Benson's Enlargement", Perry Spencer sells Kemp 3 lots on "The Beach"...numbers 45, 56, 57. The number "45" is obviously an error since the property begins at number 54 on Water Street.

YEAR: 1791 VOL: 24 PAGE: 225

FROM: Perry Spencer, Shipwright PRICE: see below

TO : Thomas Kemp, Boatwright

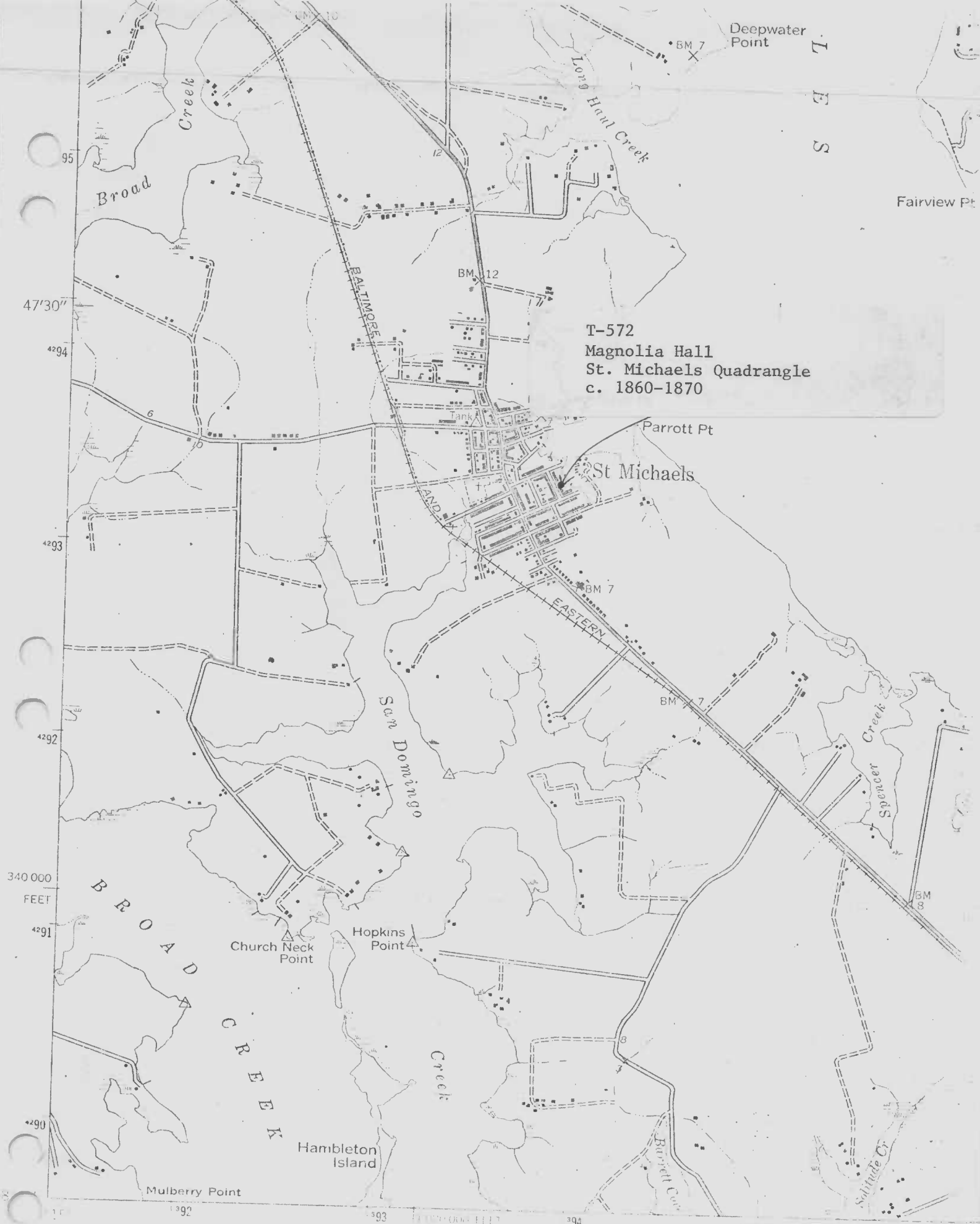
NOTES: This is a trade. Thomas Kemp gets three lots in St. Michaels, numbers 55, 56, 57 and p85 in Spanish dollars at 7sh 6d each dollar. Thomas Kemp sells Perry Spencer part of "Benson's Enlargement". The deed was made 17 January 1791. I have not found a record of how Perry Spencer obtained these lots. Perry Spencer was brother of Jonathan Spencer and could have inherited the property from his brother----except that I have no will for Jonathan and do not know his date of death.

YEAR: 1784 VOL: 21 PAGE: 425
FROM: Thomas Groves PRICE: p20 sp
TO : Jonathan Spencer, Shipwright
NOTES: One lot number 55, 60 feet on Water Street. (Jonathan Spencer had bought number 56 in 1779). He seems to jump back and forth with his title of "Shipwright" and "Boatwright".
The lot was conveyed to Thomas Groves by Jonathan Spencer, 1782, 21/252.

YEAR: 1782 VOL: 21 PAGE: 252
FROM: Jonathan Spencer, Shipwright PRICE: p10 sp
TO : Thomas Groves, Mariner
NOTES: One lot, number 55 , 60 feet on Water Street.
The lot was conveyed to Jonathan Spencer by James Braddock, 1781, 21/202.

YEAR: 1781 VOL: 21 PAGE: 202
FROM: James Braddock PRICE: p10cm
TO : Jonathan Spencer
NOTES: Lot number 55. Would have been part of "The Beach". This is the first sale of this lot.

YEAR: 1779 VOL: 21 PAGE: 128
FROM: James Braddock PRICE: p200cm
TO : Jonathan Spencer (Ship Carpenter)
NOTES: Lot Number 56. The first sale of this lot. Jonathan Spencer, calling himself a "shipwright" purchased lots 57 and 58 in 1782, also from James Braddock.



T-572
Magnolia Hall
St. Michaels Quadrangle
c. 1860-1870



MAGNOLIA HALL

T-572

Northwest Elevation

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

NEG/MD. Historical Trust



MAGNOLIA HALL

T-572

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

West Elevation

8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

NEG/MD. Historical Trust



Magnolia Hall

T-572

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

#0southwest elevation'

8/85 Paul Touart photographer

negative/Maryland Historical Trust



Magnolia Hall

T-572

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland
stair

8/85 08*08Paul Touart photographer
negative/Maryland Historical Trust